

STATE OF WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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Dear Fellow Washingtonian:

Congratulations! By ordering the "Long-Term Care Planning Kit" from the *Own Your Future* program, you have taken an important step in planning for your future long-term care needs.

This tool kit includes basic information about long-term care and describes things you can do to help plan for financial, housing, and health care needs as you age. I think you will find the CD especially helpful. The actual stories from people who have successfully taken action are inspiring, and the fundamental messages about the importance of planning ahead truly hit home.

The process of knowing where to go for help or how to locate useful information can seem daunting, I know. I am proud that Washington State has a wealth of resources to help you, which you will find with this letter. These include experienced health insurance counselors who can offer up-to-date, objective information about the many options for long-term care financing and planning. They also include a broad network of organizations that can offer assistance with more immediate long-term care needs that you and your family might have.

None of us can know for certain if we will one day need long-term care. But nothing beats the peace of mind that comes from having a plan in place to meet any possible future needs. The important information in the *Own Your Future* kit brings you one step closer to having a plan of your own, and the peace of mind that comes with it.

I hope that you and your loved ones find this planning kit as helpful as my family and I did.

Sincerely,

Christine O. Gregoire

Christine OSregoire

Governor

Enclosure